Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 03078 150825Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /064 W

-----040145 150827Z /15

P R 150723Z JUL 78 FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9015 INFO AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI AMEMBASSY NAIROBI AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, MOPS, ET, SO
SUBJECT: DETAILS ON JULY 11 ATTACK ON DJIBOUTI - ADDIS
RAILROAD

REF: ADDIS ABABA 3039

- 1. FOLLOWING IS SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS SOURCES ON JULY 11 ATTACK REPORTED REFTEL.
- 2. TWO TRAINS WERE ATTACKED BY SMALL ARMS FIRE AT DEWELE 3 KILOMETERS INSIDE ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY FROM DJIBOUTI. NO EXPLOSIVES WERE USED AND NO DAMAGE WAS CAUSED TO THE TRACKS. ONE 1202 HP ENGINE WAS 90 PERCENT DESTROYED; THE OTHER 1313 HP ENGINE WAS 70 PERCENT DESTROYED. THE TRAIN CREWS SUFFERED CASUALTIES. VARIOUS SOURCES INDICATE BETWEEN 2 AND 4 KILLED.
- 3. ETHIOPIAN MEDIA HAVE HIGHLIGHTED THE ATTACK SINCE THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT. MEDIA TREATMENT INCLUDES CONVICTION ATTACK WAS UNDERTAKEN BY SOMALI GOVT FORCES IN NOMAD GARB, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 ADDIS 03078 150825Z

THAT ATTACK WAS PART OF STEADILY INCREASING PATTERN OF SOMALI SABOTAGE OF ETHIOPIA'S ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE, A CONVICTION THAT SOMALIA IS PREPARING ANOTHER FULL SCALE INVASION, AND COMMENTS THAT WHILE ETHIOPIA AS A PEACELOVING NATION WILL CONTINUE TO EXERCISE MAXIMUM RESTRAINT, THE AGRESSORS WILL BE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR "THE BITTER AFTERMATH." CHAPIN

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TAGS: PBOR, MOPS, ET, SO

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